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What Is Claimed Is:

1. A high-speed connector for connecting at least one cable to a mating connector, the cable having a plurality of signal conductors and at least one grounding conductors therein, comprising:

a holder (100) for holding a free end of the cable (12) in a preselected position;

a plurality of conductive signal terminals (112) and one ground terminal (114), each signal (112) and ground (114) terminal including a termination end and a contact end disposed at opposite ends of the terminal for terminating to said cable (12) signal and ground conductors;

an insulative housing formed from interengaging upper (210) and lower (250) body portions, the housing having a mating face for mating with the mating connector and a cable face for engaging said cable (12), the upper (210) and lower (250) body portions cooperatively holding the cable holder (100) and said terminal (112, 114) in place within the housing (210, 250), the upper (210) body portion having an upper grounding hole (212) extending through said upper (210) body portion, the lower (250) body portion including a lower grounding hole (264) extending through the lower (250) body portion;

said housing (210, 250) further including a plurality of mating openings (260) formed along the mating face thereof, each of the mating openings (260) communicating with a single terminal (112, 114) of said connector; and,

a grounding shell substantially surrounding the upper (210) and lower (250) body portions of said housing and including a plurality of openings formed by connective bridges (330) that extend between an upper plate (310) and a lower plate (320) of the grounding shell, the plurality of openings formed thereby corresponding to and aligned with said housing mating openings (260), said grounding shell (310, 320, 330) further including grounding arms (312, 322) that electrically and mechanically contact said grounding terminal (114) within said housing (210, 250), thereby providing a grounded shell substantially enclosing said connector characterized in that:

at least one of the grounding arms (312, 322) of the grounding shell is in electrical and mechanical contact with the grounding terminal (114) so as to maintain the grounding shell at a reference potential thereby providing an electrical shield that substantially surrounds signal terminals (112) enclosed in said connector.

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2. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing lower body portion (250) includes a plurality of sidewalls (258) disposed thereon and extending longitudinally within said lower body portion (250) to define a plurality of terminal-receiving partitions (262), said terminals (112, 114) being disposed in the terminal-receiving partitions (262).
3. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing upper (210) body and the lower (250) body portions are joined to each other by ultrasonic welding.
4. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing upper (210) and lower (250) body portions include a plurality of assembly holes (214), and said cable holder (100) includes a plurality of assembly posts (102) projecting therefrom, the assembly posts (102) being received within said assembly holes (214), thereby fixing said cable holder (100) in said housing.
5. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cable (12) has a plurality of cable wires (14) are joined to said terminals (112, 114).
6. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said grounding shell includes an upper grounding plate (310) with an upper grounding arm (312) that extends through said housing upper grounding hole (212) into contact with said grounding terminal (114), and a lower grounding plate (320) with a lower grounding arm (322) that extends through said housing lower body portion (250) into contact with said grounding terminal (114);
and,
a plurality of connection bridges (330) connecting the front ends of the upper (310) and lower (320) grounding plates together and further defining mating openings which correspond to and are aligned with said housing mating openings (262).
7. A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper (312) and lower (322) grounding arms contact said grounding terminal (114) from opposite sides thereof to define a three layer grounding connection.
8. A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper (310) and lower (320) grounding

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plates each have a length that extends between said housing mating face and said cable holder (100).

9. A connector as claimed in claim 8, wherein said upper (310) and lower (320) grounding plates have equal lengths.
10. A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper (312) and lower (322) grounding arms are formed in respective center portions of said grounding shell upper (310) and lower (320) grounding plates.
11. A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of said grounding shell upper (310) and lower (320) grounding plates include an elastic flap (315) formed thereon and oriented transversely thereto for contacting a transverse portion of said mating connector.
12. A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of said grounding shell upper (310) and lower (320) grounding plates includes an elastic flap (316) formed thereon and oriented transversely thereto for contacting a transverse portion of said mating connector.
13. A method of manufacturing a high-speed cable connector, the method comprising the steps of:
 - exposing lead wires (14) of a cable (12) by removing exterior insulation of the cable (12) and fixing the cable to a cable holder (100);
 - attaching the cable lead wires (14) to conductive terminals (112, 114);
 - locating the terminals in an insulative housing having a lower body portion (250) and an upper body portion (210), which define a connector housing; and,
 - enclosing the connector housing in a grounding shell (310, 320, 330) that extends around the connector housing so that the grounding shell (310, 320, 330) substantially covers opposing upper (210) and lower body portions and substantially surrounds and shields the conductive terminals (112, 114), the method characterized in that:
 - electrical signals on a signal terminal (112) in the housing body portions (210, 250) are shielded by the grounding shell upper plate (310) that is electrically and mechanically coupled to the grounding shell lower plate (320) by the conductive

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connection bridges (330).